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Amendments to Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior revisions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for actively controlling a physical variable of interest including the steps of:
 - a. measuring the physical variable;
 - b. generating a plurality of command signals over time, each of the plurality of command signals including at least one command signal component associated with each of a plurality of force generators wherein the plurality of command signal components are calculated based upon said physical variable measured in said step a and based upon a control weighting, the control weighting including a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components; and
 - c. varying the control weighting over time, including varying at least one of the plurality of control weighting components relative to another one of the plurality of control weighting components based upon a magnitude of the plurality of command signals—signal components; and
 - d. activating the plurality of force generators based upon said plurality of command signals.
2. (Cancelled)

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3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim ~~[[2]]~~ 1 ~~wherein each of the plurality of command signals includes at least one command signal component associated with each of the plurality of force generators and the control weighting includes a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components, and whercin~~ said step c. further includes the step of varying more than one of said control weighting components.

4. (Original) The method of claim 3 further including the step of varying each of the control weighting components based upon a magnitude of the associated command signal component.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 ~~wherein each of the plurality of command signals includes a plurality of command signal components each associated with one of a plurality of force generators, and wherein the control weighting includes a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components, and wherein~~ said step c. further includes the step of varying each of the control weighting components based upon a magnitude of its associated command signal component.

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6. (Original) The method of claim 5 wherein the plurality of control weighting components include a first control weighting component greater than a second control weighting component.

7. (Cancel)

8. (Previously Presented) A method for actively controlling a physical variable of interest including the steps of:

- a. measuring the physical variable with a plurality of sensors;
- b. generating a plurality of command signals over time based upon said physical variable measured in said step a and based upon a control weighting;
- c. varying the control weighting over time; and
- d. minimizing a performance index $J = z^H W_z z + u^H W_u u + v^H W_{\delta u} v$, where W_z , W_u and $W_{\delta u}$ are matrices for the control weighting on sensors z , control inputs u , and rate of change of control inputs v , respectively.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the control weighting W_u is varied over time in said step c.

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10. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the control weighting W_u comprises a plurality of control weighting components, each associated with one of a plurality of components of each of the plurality of command signals, the method further including the step of scaling each of the control weighting components based upon a magnitude of the associated command signals component.

11. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein the control weighting W_z is varied over time in said step c.

12. (Previously Presented) A method for reducing sensed physical variables including the steps of:

- a. generating a plurality of sensed signals based upon physical variables;
- b. calculating a plurality of control commands as a function of the sensed signals;
- c. comparing each of the plurality of control commands to at least one maximum;
- d. reducing at least one of the plurality of control commands to a reduced control command based upon said step c.;
- e. recalculating the plurality of control commands other than the reduced control command based upon the reduced control command.

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13. (Original) The method of claim 12 wherein the plurality of control commands are calculated in said steps b. and e. to minimize a performance metric that includes a sensed weighting on the plurality of sensed signals and a control weighting on the plurality of control commands.

14. (Original) The method of claim 13 wherein the performance metric further includes a weighting on a change in control command over time.

15. (Original) The method of claim 12 further including the steps of:

- f. computing the difference between the at least one control command and the reduced control command;
- g. estimating a difference in the sensed signals based upon the difference; and
- h. recalculating in said step e. based upon said difference in the sensed signals.

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16. (Currently Amended) A system for controlling a physical variable comprising:

a plurality of sensors for measuring the physical variable;

a control unit generating a plurality of command signals over time, the plurality of command signals each including a plurality of command signal components, the control unit programmed to calculate the command signal components based upon the physical variable measured by the plurality of sensors and based upon a control weighting that varies over time, the control weighting including a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components, the control unit varying the control weighting components relative to one another based upon a magnitude of at least one of the plurality of command signals; and

a plurality of force generators each activated based upon an associated one of said plurality of command signals signal components.

17. (Cancel)

18. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 16 ~~wherein the plurality of command signals includes at least one command signal component associated with each of the plurality of force generators and wherein the control weighting includes a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components, and wherein the control unit varies each~~ selected ones of the control weighting components individually based upon a magnitude of the associated command signal components.

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19. (Original) The system of claim 18 wherein the control weighting components include a first control weighting component greater than a second control weighting component.

20. (Currently Amended) A computer readable medium storing a computer program, which when executed by a computer performs the steps of:

a. generating a first command signal based upon a measured physical variable and a control weighting, the first command signal including a plurality of command signal components, the control weighting including a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components;

b. changing the control weighting over time after said step a. based upon a magnitude of the first command signal, including changing one of the control weighting components relative to another one of the control weighting components based upon their associated command signal components; and

c. generating a second command signal based upon the control weighting after said step b.

21. (Cancelled)

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22. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 20, wherein the ~~first command signal and second command signal each include at least one command signal~~ component is associated with each of a plurality of force generators, and wherein said step b. further includes the step of varying the ~~at least one command signal component~~ for each of the force generators sequentially.

23. (Previously Presented) The computer readable medium of claim 22, wherein said step b. further includes the step of varying the control weighting based upon a magnitude of at least one of the command signal components.

24. (Currently Amended) The computer readable medium of claim 20, ~~wherein the first and second command signals each include at least one command signal component associated with each of a plurality of force generators and wherein the control weighting includes a plurality of control weighting components, each said control weighting component associated with one of the plurality of command signal components, and~~ wherein said step c. further includes the step of varying each of the control weighting components based upon a magnitude of the associated command signal component.

25. (Original) The computer readable medium of claim 24 wherein the control weighting components include a first control weighting component greater than a second control weighting component.

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26. (Previously Presented) A computer readable medium storing a computer program, which when executed by a computer performs the steps of:

- a. generating a first command signal based upon a measured physical variable and a control weighting;
- b. changing the control weighting over time after said step a.;
- c. generating a second command signal based upon the control weighting after said step b, wherein the first command signal and second command signal each include at least one command signal component associated with each of a plurality of force generators, and wherein said step b. further includes the step of varying the at least one command signal component for each of the force generators sequentially.

27. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 12 wherein said step e) is performed based upon the function and based upon the reduced control command.

28. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 9 wherein the control weighting W_u comprises a plurality of control weighting components associated with a plurality of command signal components of at least one of the plurality of command signals, the method further including the step of scaling each of the control weighting components based upon a magnitude of the associated command signal components.

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29. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 16 ~~wherein the plurality of command signals includes at least one command signal component associated with each of the plurality of force generators and wherein the control weighting includes a plurality of control weighting components, said control weighting components associated with the plurality of command signal components, and wherein the control unit varies each of the control weighting components based upon a magnitude of the associated command signal components.~~

30. (New) The method of claim 1 wherein the plurality of command signal components are calculated in said step b. by minimizing a performance index in which the control weighting components are weights on the command signal components, the performance index further including the physical variable measured in said step a.